

Bernal Journal

February Issue

Vol. 15, No. 1

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Builder Challenged in East Bernal Hts.

On December 28, 1977, 8 building permits (4 on Mullen and 4 on Holladay) were posted, signalling that Homestead builders had moved over to the east slope of Bernal Heights.

(Ed. note - Homestead Savings and Loan is the lending institution involved in the Elsie Street development that has been held up pending an environmental study being done by the Northwest Bernal Block Club.)

The developer, Richard Alvarez, and Homestead, along with several investors were organized under the name Wifred Inc., a newly registered Florida corporation.

Their intentions are to build a block of 8 single family dwellings on Mullen and Holladay between York and Rutledge. The 4 buildings on Mullen would be normal two story buildings facing the street, but because of the steep slope of the hill would be 50 feet high in the rear. The buildings facing Holladay, called two story dwellings, would actually be three stories high with garage and foyer as the first floor.

The buildings permits had been routinely issued by the city, but the neighborhood appealed the case to the Board of Permit Appeals on January 18.

The neighborhood argued that because of the special nature of the area an Environmental Impact Study was needed before building could proceed.

Their argument was that the eastern section of Bernal Heights is reaching the saturation point as far as entry and exit from the area. The congestion is caused by the area being cut off to the East by Highway 101 and to the South, save one unimproved road. Access from the North and West is restricted by fragmented streets and hills. Consequently, the neighborhood argued, vital public services, such as fire, police and ambulance, would be impeded by the

Continued on page 2.

from
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To:



Community Board

By
Shirley Fogarino

It's a rainy afternoon on Precita Avenue and school has just let out. In a neighborhood grocery store, a young boy of nine has bought some candy. Walking out of the store, he drops a candy bar.

The store owner's wife sees this, detains the boy and asks if he paid for that piece of candy. Her husband joins them, questions the boy, but is reluctant to call the police. Instead he phones the Bernal Heights Community Board office.

Outreach staff discuss the matter with the boy, his family and the merchant. The result is the first hearing of the Community Board on Jan. 18 at the Precita Valley Center.

Area I panelists heard the case. They were Jim Bourgart, Lill Kruse, Sabira Scott, Agnes Sua and Wayne Veatch. The boy, with his grandmother and uncle, and the merchant participated in the hearing.

The incident report on Jan. 4 said that the merchant found the boy trying to take candy from his store. The boy claimed he bought and did not steal the candy. Concerned for the boy, the merchant told the panel that he did not want the boy to have a police record.

The boy told the panel that as he was considering buying the candy bar, it dropped from his hand. He had bought other candy in the store at the time.

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School Trees

Was Friday, January 13, 1978 an unlucky day for you? Well not for us at Paul Revere School. The Floorcraft Company donated six beautiful trees to the school.

When the trees came, the students of Room 13 worked on identifying each one of them. It was a very meaningful experience for the students in Mrs. Santa Maria's class, because we are presently studying plants and performing experiments about them.

After identifying the trees, we proceeded to Tompkins, Banks and Folsom Streets to plant. The trees certainly made our school more attractive. Mr. Williams, the school custodian, helped us plant the trees. Thanks to Floorcraft again for a very luck Friday the 13th.

Ronnie Galang
Room 13 - Paul Revere School

COMMUNITY CENTER

Bernal Heights and four other San Francisco neighborhoods moved a step closer to getting multi-purpose centers at a meeting held January 30 between city officials and representatives of the five areas.

The five--South of Market, North of Market, Chinatown and Oceanview-Merced Heights-Ingleside (OMI) as well as Bernal Heights--reviewed the current status of each area with officials from the Department of City Planning and Mayors Office of Community Development.

The price tags for the five centers added up to about twice the \$1.5 million that the Board of Supervisors currently set aside for the centers.

The Bernal Heights Task Force had waited for the meeting before formally requesting a site be purchased. Currently, City Planning is checking out the prices of several location on or near Cortland Avenue, and will report on them to the February 9 (Thursday) meeting.

At that time, one or two sites will be selected, and the Bernal Heights Association will also discuss the sites at the February meeting.

The Task Force will also discuss the current status of the temporary centers at 416 and 307 Cortland, and how they may become more widely used.

The next meeting of the Task Force is Thursday February 9 at 7:30 p.m., at 307 Cortland. Anyone with questions should contact Tway Smith (285-0981)

BERNAL JOURNAL



The Bernal Journal is an open forum of the community sponsored by the Bernal Fund. It is dedicated to provided the people of Bernal Heights with neighborhood news, ideas, issues and events. Articles with by-lines express the views of the individual writers. Editorial decisions are made by the staff.

The next meeting of the Bernal Journal is Wednesday March 8, 8 p.m. at 1621 York. Anyone who would like to participate is invited.

EDITORS: Phil Johnson and Greg Catani
TREASURER: Jerry Schwartz
ADVERTISING: Jeanine Marie-Victoire
CONTRIBUTORS: Carrie Carlton, Lil Kruse, Pat Helton, Nancy Walker, Rex Coultas and the Northwest Bernal Block Club.

Send any articles or letters to 1621 York St. 94110 or call 826-0842.

For information regarding advertising call Jeanine at 648-5219, for classifieds call Rex at 648-5783

Building in Bernal

Continued from page 1

mental Evaluation had been superficial and should be returned to the Planning Department.

The neighborhood also argued that Wilfred Inc. had not registered in California as a foreign corporation on December 28 when the building permits were posted and thus could not legally conduct business in California.

The Developers argued that they had fulfilled every requirement that the city had stipulated and that an out of state corporation had 40 days in which to register with the state and Wilfred Inc. was now registered.

The Appeals Board decided to separate the 8 permits and take two votes, one for the 4 permits on Holladay and one for the 4 permits on Mullen. In each case the Board upheld the issuance of the permits to the developers.

The next day, the developers began excavating. The neighborhood called the City Permit Board because the permits were suspended for ten days after the hearing pending any appeals of the decision. A building inspector arrived and the work was halted.

I don't believe that at any intersection, when approached cautiously, one needs to blast their horns for an on coming motorist, especially in a residential area.

Nor do I believe a sensitive thinking person would use their horn to pick up his or her rides or to say "hi" if they thought of the people who are forced to hear it also.

So perhaps if we all used the Golden Rule as we use our horns, we would all lead more peaceful lives.

Thank you,
John Conley
1570 Hampshire

The neighborhood has filed for a rehearing. On either Feb. 8 or 15, the Board will decide whether or not to grant a new hearing on the basis of new evidence submitted.

Andy Husari
19 Rutledge St.
826-8268

Community Board

Continued from page 1

The panelists made it clear that the purpose of the hearing was not to blame anyone, but to help both parties resolve their problems. Gradually, the participants reached an understanding.

The boy said he understood the owner's feeling about stealing. He admitted sadness about what happened and was grateful the police were not called. The boy extended an apology to the merchant, who accepted it, saying he wanted to help youngsters stay out of trouble. The merchant said that his store has been vandalized many times, forcing him to pay high insurance rates and to watch his store very carefully.

An observer, Janet Veatch, advised the boy of the consumer's responsibility to carry a receipt for all purchases. The panel suggested that the merchant give bags and receipts to youngsters to prevent misunderstandings about stealing.

The boy and his family shook hands with the merchant and all expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the hearing.

Instead of criticism and accusation, the panel provided support and encouragement. The merchant felt good about not phoning the police and the boy got the message that a consumer must take responsibility for his actions in a store.

ABC LETTERS TO THE EDITOR DEF

To the Editors,

Automobile horns have a purpose, and I think, if asked we would all have varying ideas of what that purpose would be. Safety, of course, is the one that comes to mind first.

My living at Hampshire and Peralta has shown me the abuses of the horn. Some people use theirs to warn other motorists, that may or may not be coming around the corner of this difficult intersection.

Some people use their horns to alert their car pool rides that they have arrived to pick them up.

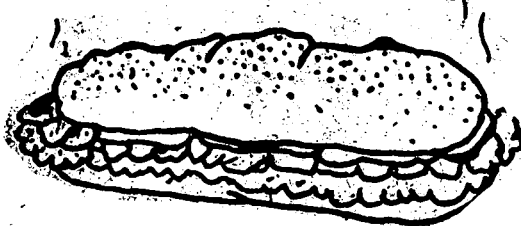
Others use them just to get the attention of friends they pass by. Still others use horns to vent their anger at the slings and arrows of other motorists.

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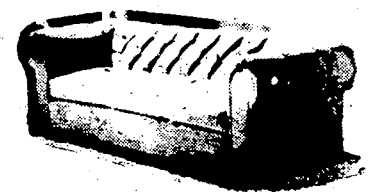
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PROFILE: PERCY DILLON



by Greg Catani

"Respect means common courtesy, give yourself some." These words are prominently displayed at the entrance to the Bernal gym off Cortland Street and they say a good deal about the popular director of the facility, Percy Dillon.

I talked with Percy last week in his office at the gym, which is the newly painted building behind the library. The Recreation and Park Department of the city employs Percy as director, but unlike other city departments, he has considerable freedom in running the gym. "I have to be totally relaxed in order to perform well and I have that freedom here," he said.

No one that is at all familiar with the accomplishments of the football, basketball, and track teams at the gym since Percy became director in 1966 would dispute the fact that he has performed very well indeed. City championships seem to be a common feat for the Bernal teams. However, perhaps a more important measure of Percy's success comes from parents and neighbors who know the positive influence that he continues to have on the young people of Bernal Heights.

Commenting on his role as director Percy observed, "We can't just be directors; we have to be mothers,

fathers, doctors; and lawyers. We'll never get rich in this field--you have to do it for some other reason--you have to love the kids. My main concern is the kids, they need leadership. I can see what kids are doing when parents can't and I'd be neglecting my duty if I didn't do or say something."

Percy is a native of New Orleans, who came to San Francisco after high school in 1958. Although he played football in high school, he said that track was his better sport at that time. In San Francisco he attended City College and San Francisco State, playing offensive end on both school's football teams. During his senior year Percy first became involved with the Recreation and Park Department, working part-time at various gyms in the city.

After graduating with his B.A. in recreation in 1964, he was drafted into the Army Special Services. The military was certainly special for Percy as he was stationed in Fort Knox and played football for the Fort Knox Tankers at offensive end and defensive back. It was during this time that his football skills really developed and despite the relative obscurity of the Army football league, he received a scouting questionnaire from the Pittsburgh Steelers. During the Army stint, he also played baseball until his discharge in 1966.

After briefly working for NASA in New Orleans, Percy returned to San Francisco and a job as director of the Upper Noe Gym for the Recreation and Park Department. A month later he was transferred to Bernal, replacing Don Franklin who moved to Hunters Point.

Being director at the gym since 1966 and working with many of the neighborhood youth on a daily basis gives Percy an insiders perspective on Bernal Heights and the needs and problems of area youth. "Bernal Heights is a good neighborhood, but parents should get more involved in the community. I don't think the kids around here are bad kids, I've got a lot of respect for them", he said, "The young adults need work; I would say

all of the young people want to work, but it's hard to find work."

In response to a question about his philosophy as a coach, Percy explained, "I think when a kid goes out and gives 100%, there should be no finger pointing. Win or lose,

you do it as a group. I emphasize good sportsmanship. I think practice is important at the beginning of a season, but at this level (15 years old and under) you can overpractice and the kids lose interest. I like to put humor in the practices and I always play along with my teams."

Percy mentioned winning the city championship in track in 1969 with a Bernal team of 18 and helping to develop the skills of such local star athletes as Bruce Rhodes, Orlando Walker, and the Johnwell brothers as some of his most satisfying accomplishments thus far at the gym.

The winning ways of the Bernal gym teams have continued so far this season. The 70's football team, which includes 8-11 year olds, won the city championship with a lopsided 31-6 victory over Oceanview. Craig Maxwell, David Thomas, and Derek Gas-kin were outstanding for Bernal.

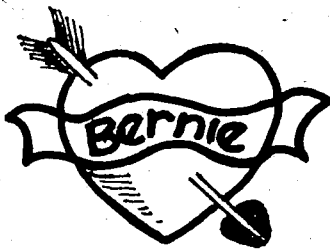
In the 90's football, including 10-13 year olds, the Bernal team is thus far undefeated and currently in the city play-offs.

Meanwhile the basketball season is beginning and Bernal has two teams, the 15 and unders, playing at Portola, and an 11 and under group, which will play at beginning on February 4.

The staff at the gym has a new member, Adrienne Frazier, who will be assistant director for women. She has an Afro-jazz dance class on Wednesdays from 5:30-7:00 p.m., an Arts and Crafts class on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 4:30-5:30 p.m., and a Saturday dance class from 11:30-1:30 p.m. Adrienne is planning to start girls softball and basketball in the near future.

Hours for the gym are 1:00-5:30 p.m. and 7:00-10:00 p.m. daily. The gym is closed Saturday evenings and Sundays.

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PRECITA BAZAAR

"The Bazaar was a magnificent experience planned by the most dedicated and creative staff in my four years at the Center. We were supported by many volunteers and artists from this community who blended together the best of cultures and talents. The sun shone for us. The building vibrated with the energetic joy of all who attended. Our satisfaction was total and with that feeling I split town for vacation! Many thanks to all who participated. What's next."
Carole Wiley, Director Precita Center

"There was a little apprehension as to exactly how the turn out would be, but as soon as the show got started it was like a dream come true."
Agnes Sua, Precita Youth Resource Worker.

"That night reminded me of a pot of some good home-cooked chili. All that is missing is for us to take the lid off so that the aroma and taste can get around. Let's do it again."
Roberto Hidalgo, Precita Headstart Assistant Teacher.



"I felt that we witnessed a display of true human and social interaction of young and old. Some adults did a puppetry show which delighted young and old. The Polynesian cultural workshop performances were fiery and inspiring. The Afro-Cuban Conga Drum Class presented music of Africa, Latin and contemporary origins. The Bazaar was fantastic in every respect."
Larry Cannon, Precita Program Aide

"It was a miracle!" Caroline Wiswell
Puppet Program Director.

"People, arts and crafts, music and laughter. The Precita Bazaar was community people blending these good things together to work for the enjoyment of all. The happy faces of people, young and old, who took part was good indication of the success of this annual affair."
Connie Santos, Precita Headstart

BERNAL HEIGHTS

By Nancy Walker
President B.H.A.

The primary purpose of a neighborhood association is to bring neighbors together to exchange information and to work to keep the neighborhood a place where people can live in reasonable homes, where there is access to good schools, churches, shops, health care, entertainment, and recreation. And, at least as important, have the opportunity and ability to enjoy the variety of culture and color that we all bring to this community.

Bernal Heights has schools, parks, and the variety, but its transportation and access is a mess, we have no health care (except the Well Baby Clinic which will close in April), builders and speculators are creating major problems by driving up prices and building monstrosities. Cortland is a disaster area. Our streets seldom get cleaned and repaired. We are given inadequate programs and money by the city which do little more than keep us quiet with promises that there will be more money....sometime.

Suddenly the world has discovered Bernal Heights. Fighting over the turf and turning our hill into the city's next Haight Ashbury or Union Street. We have a Supervisor direct

ly lined up with Quentin Kopp. Lee Dolson will take a conservative position on most issues. He says he will support child care--we need to know how he plans to support that and what he plans to do about other equally pressing problems like jobs and real estate speculation.

I believe that if we use the B. H.A. correctly and creatively it will be a tool to confront and deal with problems as they come up and to plan things which we want for Bernal Heights and San Francisco.

It is a good way to make coalitions with like-minded people around the city to insure progressive growth in Bernal, growth in services and in unity.

The next few years are going to be a struggle. We must learn to support each other as well as know one another.

The B.H.A. meetings now take place on the second Monday of each month. We need more people from all over the Hill at the meetings. They are held alternately on the North and South sides of the neighborhood. To increase our communications we are going to try and bring the Journal out monthly and deliver it to every household on the Hill. To accomplish this we must help the staff because it is impossible for them to do it every month.

You will see elsewhere in the paper other things that people are

doing and other things that need to be done. You don't have to pay to be a member of the B.H.A.--just come to the meetings. To get the Journal in the mail costs \$2 per year.

Join us--we work hard and have fun too.

The next meeting of the B.H.A. is on Monday, February 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Precita Center, 534 Precita. Assemblyman Art Agnos will be at the meeting to discuss legislative plans, which face our city and community.

Also at the meeting, Mike Mason will discuss the work being done to develop a new Master Plan for Bernal Heights. In a related matter, Buck Bagot from the Elsie Street Group will relate what is happening with their anti-development projects.

Board Member Needed

The Southeast Mental Health Center Community Advisory Board is seeking applications from residents of Bernal Heights who wish to serve on the volunteer body.

The Board, which meets every 2nd Monday from 5 to 8 p.m. gives advice to the Southeast Mental Health Center Director on programs and service needs.

According to Opal Kitchin, newly elected Chairperson, "The Board is looking for people who have a strong desire to improve the mental health services in their community. They have to be ready to do some work."

Applications can be received by writing to the CAB, 2601 20th Street San Francisco, Ca. 94110, or by phoning 648-1922 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

BERNAL HEIGHTS

Events & Activities

PRECITA HEAD START OPENINGS

The Precita Head Start program for children between the ages of three years and five years still has several openings. The school is in session Tuesdays through Fridays from 9am-1pm. If you are interested in a good pre-school for your child, please call the Mission Area Office: 285-4050 to inquire and to check to see if you meet our low-income guidelines.

PRECITA CENTER PROGRAM. 534 Precita Ave. 285-7833.

HEADSTART. Tues.-Fri. 9am-1pm pre-school.

CHILDREN'S AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM (7 - 12 yrs.)

Mon. "Introduction to Music"

3:30-5:00pm

Tues. Puppetry Workshop

3:30-5:00pm

Wed. Arts & Crafts

3:30-5:30pm

Thurs. Clay Art - new program

open to all ages over 7.

3:30-5:00 in Feb.

TEENS & YOUNG ADULTS

Mon. Boys Basketball 6-8pm

Tues. Samoan Church Youth Volleyball 6:30-8:30pm

Mon. Girl Scout Troupe #79

13-14 yrs. 7:00-8:30pm

Tues. Guitar & Music Theory

4-6pm

Wed. Jr. Girl Scouts 9-11 yrs.

7:00-8:30pm

Fri. Latin Percussion Workshop

6:00-8:00pm

ADULT

Tues. "How To Draw Everything" new program open to 15 yrs & over. 7-9pm in Feb.

Thurs. Precita Eyes Experimental Art Workshop - graphics, murals, color-mimeo. 7:30-10:00pm

RECREATION PING PONG, GYM SPORTS,

TABLE GAMES Mon-Fri. 2-5pm

RECREATION ping pong, gym sports,

table games. Mon-Fri. 2-5pm

COMMUNITY MEETINGS.

Precita Center Program Board -

1st Mon. of month. Open to new

members. Open meetings 7:30pm

Alabama/Ripley Block Club - 1st

Tues. of month. Open meetings

7:30pm

Community Board Panel Hearings

Dist. #1 - 2nd & 4th Wed. monthly

7:30pm

Precita Youth Club - meetings as

yet unscheduled. Next meeting

Thurs. Feb. 16. 5:00pm. 13-20 yrs.

* * * *

BERNAL BRANCH LIBRARY

"Yaks and Yetis," a slide show of three women trekking through Nepal, will lead off the Bernal Branch Library's series of adult programs for February and March. Linda Davis, one of the women who made the trip, will present the show on Feb. 8 at 7:00 p.m.

The library will show three films on Black history on Feb. 22, beginning at 7:00 p.m. I Have a Dream documents the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, O Dem Water-melons is an anti-racist comedy, and a famous comedian raps in Bill Cosby on Prejudice.

To celebrate International Women's Day, the library will show two films on March 8 at 7:00 p.m. Janie's Janie depicts a working class woman who finds a new identity, and Woo Who? May Wilson shows the transition an older woman goes through in becoming a sculptor.

On March 22; members of People Against Nuclear Power will be at the library to show the film Lovejoy's Nuclear War, about a small town's struggle with the problems of nuclear power. They will also lead a discussion of similar struggles in California and other places.

The Children's Department will show films on February 7 and 21, and March 7 and 21. The 11:00 a.m. showings will be for pre-school children, ages three to six years. The 4:00 p.m. showings will be for children ages six to twelve years.

Pre-school story hours are Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.

The library has books, magazines and records in Spanish as well as in English. We can also order books for you in other languages or with extra large print. Suggestions for books and programs are always welcome.

Library hours are:

1-6 p.m. Monday, Thursday, Friday

10-12 and 1-6 Tuesday

1-9 p.m. Wednesday

* * * *

NANNY GOAT HILL GALLERY, 3205

Folsom, announces "Hearts and Flowers" works done by gallery members, their friends, and from their own collections.

Dates are February 3-26, Fri., Sat., and Sun., 12:00 to 5:00 or by appointment. Call 824-4636 or 826-3902.

All of the works play upon the theme of the show. Some satirize it, others eroticize it, others take it literally and push it as far as it can go. The surprises are in the diversified interpretations of a very familiar theme.

An opening party will be held at the gallery on Friday, Feb. 3, at 7:30 p.m.

* * * *

COMO

On Jan. 31 a pre-benefit party will be held at COMO office at 601 Tompkins St. for a benefit that is coming up on Feb. 9th at the Apollo Theater on Geneva Ave. from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m.

The African Queen and two Charlie Chaplin shorts will be shown. Guest M.C. will be Paul Winn from Channel 5. It's a family night affair, \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for kids. Come and join the fun.

The Putnam-Nevada-Bronte Block Club will be meeting on Feb. 8th at 100 Putnam St. Issues on the agenda will include the mini-park to be installed on Jarboe St.

* * * *

THE FARM

Tom Pringle announces that the Trust for Public Land has licensed him the old Knudsen/Bloom parking lot for a recycling center. After 8 months of volunteer work at St. Peter's Recycling, he's now his own boss. The name of the new center is Mission Short Circuit. Open 7 days a week from 8-5. Bring your sorted refuse: newspapers, brown bags, tin cans, motor oil, aluminium, scrap metal, clothing and garage saleables.

The Farm is giving tours on Monday and Wednesday mornings. So far we have had lots of pre-schoolers and adults and seniors come by. Call 826-4290.

Activities at The Farm, 1499 Potrero, include:

Mime & Clowning for Children, Mon. 3:30-5:00 pm. Free.

Circus Skills for Children & Adults. Tues. & Thurs. 3:30-5:00 pm. Free.

Children's Drama Workshop.

Sat. 12 noon-2:00pm. Free

Dance for Adults

Sewing & Quilting

Leathercraft & Needlecraft

* * * *

MISSION YMCA hopes to become more active in the planning and development of the Bernal Heights Community Center. A new full time employee, Joyce O'Brien, has been added to the Mission YMCA staff as the Community Liaison Director. She will be responsible for assessing current needs of the Bernal Heights area and designing possible YMCA services that could be implemented in the Community Center or temporary facilities. Any information, suggestions, or comments about the Bernal Heights Community are greatly appreciated at the Mission YMCA, 4080 Mission St., 586-6900

A mobile outreach program called "Vantastics" is now being planned at the Mission YMCA to provide services directly in the neighborhoods. A vantastic van will visit two community sites each Saturday, Feb. 11 - June 10, and provide traditional recreational activities as well as special workshops

For more information, please contact the Mission YMCA, 586-6900.

Energy Alternatives

By Sabira Scott

Alternative Directions in Energy and Economics is a liaison and consulting center working on new approaches to energy and economics, particularly in the areas in which they interact.

We are investigating such energy alternatives as: ocean thermal energy conversion, wind power, river power, solar thermal electric power and methane conversion. They are admirably suited to the existing American economy and technology.

They are ready to be put to use immediately, but have been neglected. We believe that the implementation of these systems, in conjunction with an economic plan that insures full employment along with minimal inflation, is the key to the nation's continued growth and development.

Energy systems we support must be ecologically benign, ready to be built now and able to interface with the existing techno-economy. We welcome inquiries from interested members of the public, researchers in the fields, potential sponsors of alternative energy systems and other groups working along similar lines.

For information packets call 285-8079 or write to 119 Ripley #5 San Francisco, Ca. 94110.

Classes Planned—Students Needed

By Pat Helton

If all goes well, fourteen free-to-the-public adult education classes will start in Bernal Heights the week of April 3. The classes will be sponsored by Mission Community College, which will soon be opening its doors at Mission and Army.

The classes will be held at Paul Revere Annex, 555 Tompkins; Le Conte, 3125 Army; Bernal Heights Temporary Community Center, 307 Cortland; Precita Valley Community Center, 534 Precita. The classes will be during the day and evening. Getting the people into these classes, out from our homes, will be a problem.

Each class must register twenty students to run for eight weeks. If the enrollment is not up to twenty students, the class will be cancelled before the eight weeks.

So, 280 people need to enroll from Bernal Heights if the program is to be 100% successful.

Staying at home, especially at night, is getting to be a way of life for many people. Recently Bernal Heights has had the help of two groups of community organizers to help us solve this problem--SAFE and Community Advisor Board.

What follows are tentative descriptions and schedules. The next Bernal Journal will carry the course description written by the teacher and the definite time.

1. TEXTILES, WEAVING, DYING. Pamela Morin. Tu 9:30-11:30 555 Tompkins.
 2. HANDBUILDING FUNCTIONAL POTTERY. Ann Lacy, Perry Bard. Th. 1-3, 3125 Army (Spanish-English)
 3. PAINTING WITH DESIRED MEDIA/FRAMING. Jim Lind Tu. 7-9 3125 Army.
 4. DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION WITH DESIRED MEDIA. Karl Ardo. Tu, 7-9 3125 Army
- These art classes are open to all levels of skill.
5. MATH WORKSHOP with some English skills. Th. 9:30-11:30. Bill Morgan. 555 Tompkins.
 6. MATH WORKSHOP with some English skills. M. 1-3. 307 Cortland Geri Hijab
 7. ENGLISH WORKSHOP with social studies. Dan Richmond. W. 1-3, 307 Cortland. (Spanish/English)
 8. ENGLISH SKILLS THROUGH JOURNALISM. Greg Catani, Phil Johnson. W. 7-9. 307 Cortland
 9. S.F. NEIGHBORHOODS AND CITY GOVERNMENT with skills in speaking, discussion, research. Steve Barton, Pat Downey. Tu. 7-9. 3125 Army
- All these course will meet individual problems, especially the workshops which will be specially designed to help persons pass the G.E.D. test for a high school diploma.
10. HOW TO START A CHILD CARE CENTER IN YOUR HOME--PROBLEMS AND HOW TO SOLVE THEM. Vivian Luna, Tu. 1-3. 307 Cortland. Spanish/Eng
 11. WRITERS WORKSHOP, especially for women who write or want to write. Gail Newman. Tu 7-9, 3125 Army
 12. SELF DEFENSE FOR THE MODERATE. Ana Perez. Th. 7-9. 555 Tompkins
 13. SPANISH CONVERSATION, beginning Alphonso Iniguez. Th. 7-9, 555 Tompkins.
 14. HOME REPAIR. David Jackness. Sat. 534 Precita 10-12.

Will it work? We need your involvement. I'm hoping the people reading these words will help by trying to contact friends and neighbors,

Please call if you have suggestions about the schedule, if you need childcare or transportation to attend the classes. We may be able to help. Also, please call if you can think of good ways to get 20 students in each class. Audrey O'Gilvie. 282-5839 Diane Bauer. 648-8784 Pat Helton. 648-1415

Don't Forget. The classes start the week of April 3. Call also if you would like to pre register.

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A BIRD OVER BERNAL

By
Barbara M. Pitschel

During this time of year (late January) several of the earliest blooming species of wildflowers can be seen on the hill. These include Footsteps-of-Spring (*Sanicula arctopoides*, Wild Parsley (*Lomatium* sp.) and Star Lillies (*Zigadenus fremontii*), about all of which I have written in past issues of the Journal.

While it is spring for the flowers, it is still winter for some species of birds. Our benign Mediterranean climate permits us to enjoy both phenomena simultaneously.

Although not numerous like the Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*), a winter resident about whom I previously wrote, the red-shafted Flicker (*Colaptes cafer*) is worth looking for.

I don't if there is more than one Flicker, as I have not seen more than one at a time. I usually see it flying from tree to tree just below

the boulevard on all sides of the hill and it is sometimes noticeable around the phone company trees at the hilltop.

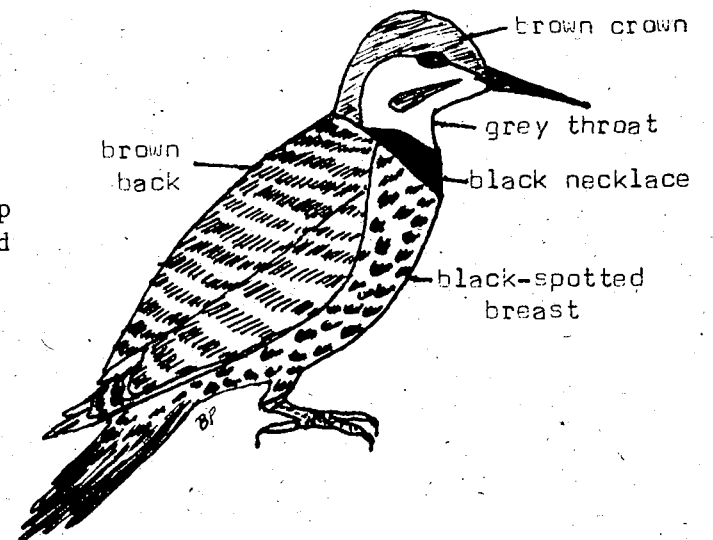
The Flicker is a member of the Woodpecker Family (Picadae), a group of birds with strong sharply-pointed bills, long tongues, powerful feet, and stiff tails, all adaptations for feeding wood-boring insects.

Flickers are most easily spotted when in flight, due to the presence of two distinctive characteristics. It is from the first that the bird is named, its "red-shafted" salmon-red underlinings of the wing and tail.

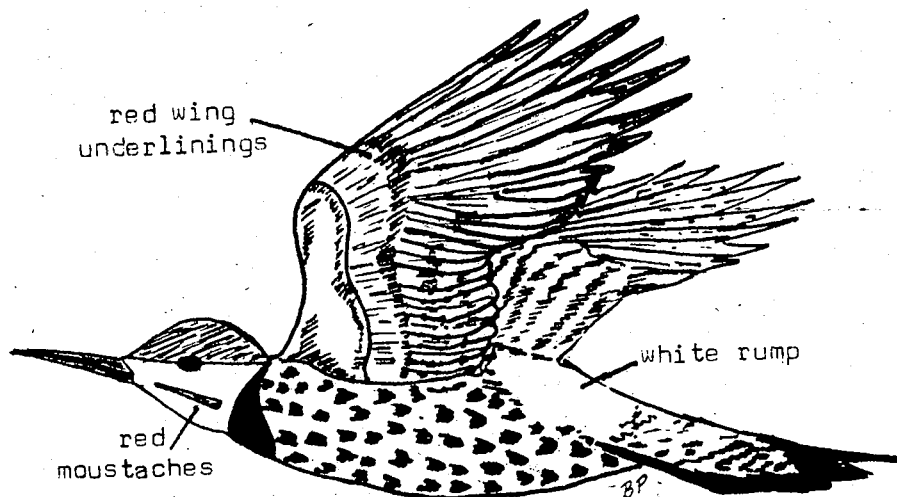
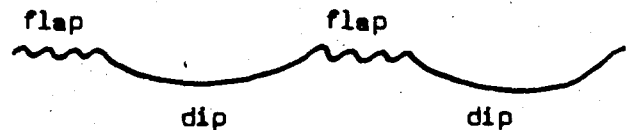
This can distinguish it from the closely related Yellow-shafted Flicker. This is becoming less true because the species interbreed. On edges of breeding ranges, they are even showing such combined physical traits as orange wing linings.

The second distinctive characteristic is the flight pattern itself, which contains a series of dips as

Red-shafted Flicker (*Colaptes cafer*)



in the following diagram:



This woodpecker is about a foot long, approximately the size of the jay. It has a white rump, a black necklace, brown back, brown crown, grey throat and cheeks, and a black spotted underside. The male has red mustaches.

The Flickers often spend time on the ground, where they are reported to eat ants.

When warm weather comes to the mountain and northern regions, there will no longer be such a concentration of these birds in the coastal regions. Populations will disperse and we will probably lose our hill flicker(s) until next winter.

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Racoons on Ripley

By Jane Wrench

It was 10:15 p.m. and I was talking on the phone to my friend Ruth. I gazed through the sliding door into the darkness beyond, when suddenly, I saw two sharp eyes with rings around them peering into the living room.

"There's an odd looking cat", I said to Ruth. I looked again, and this time all my camping experiences flashed through my mind, including the inevitable night-time marauders.

I yelled into the phone, "Ruth!"

Your last chance to present your opinion of the educational redesign plan will be at the public meeting before the Board of Education as a Committee of the Whole, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m., 135 Van Ness Ave. Plan to attend.

We need more parents to actively participate in our schools. We urge everyone to visit Le Conte. With your help we can guarantee the quality of education our children receive. We hope to see you at Le Conte soon.

We as parents and members of the same community must work together in the struggle to guarantee an equal quality education for our children.

Roberta Schellenberger
P.T.A. President

A RACCOON. He's at the door, Goodbye." I slowly to the door and peered through the glass. He moved closer and quizzically looked at me. The next thing I knew, there was another one, no three, heavens--four--my God--five.

I was so excited I wakened my son who brought our cat, "Calico" over to see. She bristled and hissed. We opened the door and four of them backed down the stairs, while the leader held his position.

I grabbed an instant camera which I had just borrowed for another purpose, snapped a picture and then watched them wander down to my old tomato plant and pluck off one of the shrivelled tomatoes. They then climbed the fence, looked back, and wandered off down Ripley Street.

Mini-park on Esmeralda

The Northwest Bernal Block Club, after much delay, has reorganized for the completion of the mini-park on the Esmeralda-Winfield stairway. There is still a lot of work to be covered. Those interested in helping the completion call 282-9153 or 826-3149 for upcoming meetings.

Hill Clean-up

The monthly top of the hill clean ups are on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 1 p.m. The next clean-up is Feb. 19. Bags are provided at the gate of the phone company's road. Return the bags to the same spot, where the city will pick them up the next day.

Le Conte PTA

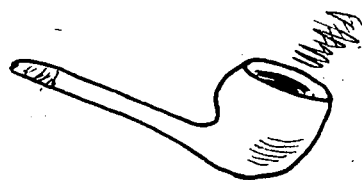
The quality of education is an issue we are all faced with these days and the parents of Le Conte students are no exception.

This month Le Conte has focused its attention on the need for more parent participation and education at the school site. How Superintendent Alioto's redesign plan will effect our children and community has brought concerned parents to school to take a good look at what's happening to public education.

Scholastically, San Francisco ranks very low in national standings. Within this district Le Conte 6th highest in needs, 80% of the student population scoring below the national average. We all must look closer and find out why.

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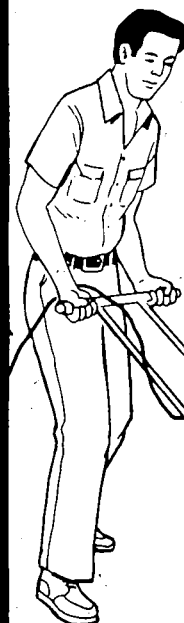
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